minerals of the country during the period of Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any sum has been allocated to the NMDC for this purpose; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC) has sought prospecting licence (P.L.) for gold and diamond in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka and for iron ore in the States of Bihar and Orissa. With the grant of P.L. by the State Governments NMDC would take up systematic exploration of the minerals.

(c) NMDC will be funding the proposed exploration with its own resources.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

निर्यात/आयात नीति के कारण इस्पात उद्योग में मंदी

2152. **श्री रामजी लाल** : क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस्पात संयंत्रों में वर्तमान मंदी के क्या कारण हैं ;

(ख) क्या इस उद्योग में मंदी के लिए आयात या निर्यात नीति जिम्मेदार है ; और

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान उत्पादित इस्पात और निर्यात किए गए इस्पात का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

इस्पात मंत्री तथा खान मंत्री (श्री बीरेन्द्र प्रसाद बैश्य) : (क) 1996-97 के दौरान परिसज्जित कार्बन इस्पात का उत्पादन अब तक का अधिकतम 227.2 लाख टन हुआ जो पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में 6.17% प्रतिशत अधिक है।

(ख) उपरोक्त (क) को ध्यान में रखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान परिसज्जित इस्पात का उत्पादन और निर्यात नीचे दिया गया है :—

(दस लाख टन)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
उत्पादन	17.82	21.40	22.72
निर्यात	0.92	1.07	1.62

Number of steel plants in the country

2153. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing Steel plants in India alongwith the names of the public sector/joint sector, State-wise; and

(b) the investment made in each plant?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) and (b) There are six integrated steel plants and two special steel plants in public sector. Besides these, there are seven electric are furnace based steel plants in public/joint

sector. Statewise details are as follows:

State	Names of the Plants	Public/Joint Sector	Investment (apprx.) (Rs. in Crores)
Andhra Pradesh .	Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd.	Central public sector	8231 (end 1996-97 Subjcet to audit)
	Andhra Pradesh Steels Ltd.	State Govt. Undetaking	Information is being collected.
Bihar	Bokaro Steel Plant	Central public sector	3894
Haryana . . .	Haryana Concast Ltd.	State Govt. Undertaking	Information is being collected.
Karnataka . . .	Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Ltd.	Cental public sector	181
Kerala	Steel Complex Ltd.	State Govt. Undertaking	Information is being collected.
Madhya Pradesh . .	Bhilai Steel Plant	Central public sector	2431
	M.P. Alloy Castings Ltd.	Joint Sector	Information is being collected.
Orissa	Rourkela Steel Plant	Central public sector	5089
	IPI STEEL Ltd.	Joint sector	Information is being collected.
Tamil Nadu . . .	Tamil Nadu Steels Ltd.	State Govt. Undertaking	Information is being collected.
West Bungal . . .	Durgapur Steel Plant	Central public sector	5835
	Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	Central public sector	610
	Alloy Steels Plant	Central public sector	183
	National Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	State Govt. Undertaking	Information is being collected.

Surplus Steel produced by Bhilai Steel Plant

2154. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bhilai Steel Plant has produced much more steel than the demand;

(b) if so, the details of the excess produced steel by the Plant during the last three years; and

(c) the action being taken by Government to market the excess steel of BSP in and outside the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) The office of the Development Commissioner Iron and Steel assesses the